



BROWARD VICTIM'S RIGHTS COALITION

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED, PRESENT & HEARD

Minutes from the General Meeting held on May 15, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Nancy J. Cotterman Center

2995 N. Dixie Highway Oakland Park, FL 33334

- I. Call to Order: Sandra Vazquez
 - a. Meeting called to order at 11:05 A.M.
- II. Introductions: All Members Present
- III. Read and Approve Minutes from March Meeting: All Present
 - a. Juliana Chereji Dunn motioned to approve the minutes, rosemary Baker seconded.
Motion passed.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Ashley Conon for Debbie Geller
 - a. March
 - i. RLK Fund Account
 - 1. Starting Balance: \$1,063.64
 - 2. \$93.03 deducted for garden rock decorations
 - 3. Earned \$0.01 interest
 - 4. Ending Balance: \$970.62
 - ii. Leadership Broward Account
 - 1. Starting Balance: \$2,405.95
 - 2. Ending Balance: \$2,405.95
 - iii. General Account
 - 1. Starting Balance: \$35,035.61
 - 2. \$186.06 paid to ComfortSuites for RLK request
 - 3. \$0.25 deducted as a service charge
 - 4. \$424.33 deposited in dues and early annual luncheon payments
 - 5. Ending Balance: \$35,273.63
 - b. April
 - i. RLK Fund Account
 - 1. Starting Balance: \$970.62
 - 2. Ending Balance: \$
 - ii. Leadership Broward Account
 - 1. Starting Balance: \$2,405.95
 - 2. Ending Balance: \$2,405.95

iii. General Account

1. Starting Balance: \$35,273.63
2. \$2879.79 paid to Galuppi's for the annual luncheon reservation
3. \$285.15 paid to Edco for the awards
4. \$182 paid to renew the USPS P.O. Box
5. \$1.27 deducted in service charges
6. \$2500 deposited in LETF funds from the Davie Police Department
7. \$3,537.38 deposited in training and annual luncheon payments
8. Ending Balance: \$37,962.80

c. Judy Nesbitt motioned to approve the treasurers report, Rosemary Baker seconded.

Motion passed.

V. Speaker: Stefanie Newman

ASAIC Domestic Violence Unit

Broward State Attorney's Office

- ❖ During a webinar on DV fatality review teams, Brenda Foreman learned that she was the only clerk in the state giving sealed injunction packets.
- ❖ It was decided to eliminate the sealed service packets.
- ❖ As of July 1st, the service packets petitioners receive will no longer be called, "emergency packets" and they will be unsealed.
- ❖ Victims will receive two certified, unsealed, service packets. One for them and one to be served if the respondent is encountered.
- ❖ The first page of the packet has the date of the hearing, when to go, where to go, and prohibited conduct as well as the stipulation that the respondent is not allowed to possess firearms. Law enforcement may collect the firearms and provide receipts.
- ❖ The service packets also contain the petition which contains what the petitioners have written. If the petition is not served with the packet, the judge may say that the service is insufficient, as the respondent is entitled to receive it.
- ❖ Proof of service forms will be included in the service packet. BSO Civil have body cameras to show proof of service, however the recordings are only kept for a limited period of time. If another department serves the packet, it is recommended BSO is contacted within 30 minutes, so that it can be added into teletype that the individual was served.
- ❖ A training manual was put together by BSO outlining the changes that are going to take place in regards to injunction service packets.
- ❖ Legislation has been put forth on Hope cards in Broward County and goes into effect October 21st.
- ❖ The Hope Card program will go through the Clerk of Courts, but will work in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General.
- ❖ Hope cards will provide information on the injunction in a wallet sized card. It will have the petitioner's name and all protected parties, respondent's name and dob, case number, jurisdiction, date of issue, and date of expiration.

- ❖ Hope cards will be valid for up to 2 years, or until the date the injunction expires, whichever is sooner. It is renewable. Must reapply every two years in the county where the injunction was issued.
- ❖ There is a clause on the card stating if the petitioner has knowledge that injunction was dismissed and they try to use the card to have someone arrested, it is a misdemeanor offense.
- ❖ Once a petitioner applies for a HOPE card, the clerk has 3 business days to produce the card. It is unknown at this time what the pickup method will be. It is also unknown whether valid identification will be required for pick up.

VI. New Business

a. Standing Events Committee

- i. We are considering putting together a standing committee to help plan events. A sign-up sheet is going around. Please sign up if interested in being on the committee.
- ii. We would like to do a bowling event again in October during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Pre-covid the bowling alley used to give a percentage of profits.

b. No meeting in June

VII. Old Business

a. NCVRW – wrap up

- i. The vigil went well. It was a very touching event.
- ii. The training and luncheon had a turnout of 84 guests. Only 1 payment is still missing. It was a very good outcome and well attended.

b. RLK

i. New Committee Member: Deva Cats-Baril

- ❖ At the previous meeting 3 members expressed interest in being on the RLK committee. 2 members have stepped down, therefore, as the acting member, Deva Cats-Baril will be appointed as the new committee member.

ii. Victim Assistance Fund – Elena Munoz

- ❖ RLK applications received for financial assistance for victims can go towards food, gas, transportation, utilities, or any other financial assistance after all other community resources are exhausted. The maximum that can be requested is \$500.
- ❖ Application must be submitted by a BVRC member in good standing. A proof of crime is needed. Either the victim must reside in Broward or the crime must have occurred in Broward.
- ❖ The application form for RLK has been revamped. The new form is on the website. Membership dues may also be paid on the website.

- ❖ Usually gift cards are provided, cash cannot be issued. Vendors can also be paid directly.
- ❖ One application per household may be submitted.
- ❖ Two applications have been approved since the last meeting in March. One from NJCC for a sexual assault survivor. And one from Coral Springs PD for a homicide/attempted murder survivor.
- ❖ Ariel Ladner suggested adding RLK criteria and bylaws to the BVRC website. Deva suggested making a “members only” tab on the website for RLK information.
- ❖ Nicole Charbonier suggested putting a printable RLK form on the website.

iii. Social Media Committee - Paulina Quintero (pquintero@sao17.state.fl.us)

- ❖ Elena Munoz for Paulina – no social media updates. Please e-mail Paulina if you would like anything posted on social media at pquintero@sao17.state.fl.us.

iv. Speaker’s Bureau/Community Outreach – Ashley Conon

- ❖ Please e-mail Ashley if you mention BVRC at any speaking engagements aconon@margatefl.com. BVRC mentions are tracked for grant purposes.
- ❖ A PowerPoint slide is available to show at speaking engagements, if requested.

v. Membership – Sandra Vazquez

- ❖ Membership dues are due in February.
- ❖ Please contact Tara if you have questions regarding your membership status Tarena@coconutcreek.net.

VIII. Announcements

- a. There is a new Sunrise PD advocate – Megan and a new Miramar advocate – Sherry.
- b. Deva – SART and CACC meeting is tomorrow, Southeast Regional Florida SART Symposium will be in September.
- c. Jill Fogel suggested making the Garden more easily accessible for those with walkers or wheelchairs, wood planks possibly at the vigil – also suggested paying for the award winners to attend the annual luncheon.

IX. Adjournment

- a. Judy Nesbitt motions to adjourn. Pamela Weisberg seconded.
- b. 11:54 meeting adjourned.

Next meeting July 17, 2024
Plantation Police Dept.
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www.browardvictimsrights.org
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